

Saipan Tribune

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I N S I D E

Around the CNMI

URBAN OUTLET
+ORANGE

Rose Parade prompts family to revisit NMI

By LIBERTY DONES
REPORTER

Carmen Gaskins was about seven years old when she met the Moormans—a couple with two very young children—in the early 1950s.

Her mother, Rita Cabrera Castro, she said, used to baby sit Moorman's two little girls: 15-month old Jane and two-year old Cicely.

"I'm very fond of them. They're so cute and I would play with them while they're with my mom," Gaskins recalled.

But their close family ties ended after two years when the Moormans went back to the U.S. mainland. Only fond memories held the two families together for years.

No communication whatsoever took place between the two families until lately when the Moormans saw the CNMI's float entry in this year's Rose Parade in Pasadena.

The Moormans' longing to see Saipan and locate Carmen's family rushed back, and this time, they had people—float parade representatives—to seek help from.

One step led to another, and finally, the Moormans were able to contact Carmen, leading to their revisiting the islands during last month's 60th anniversary of the Battles of Saipan and Tinian.

"We're so excited to come back. I love Saipan!" said the family's amiable matriarch, 80-year old Priscilla Moorman in an interview.

Priscilla traveled to Saipan and Tinian with her two daughters Jane and Cicely and son-in-law Ken Powell.

Priscilla's husband, Dr. Henry D. Moorman, who was assigned on Tinian in the 50's as a surgeon specializing in leprosy, died in 1967 at 48.

The Moormans had two other children who could not make it to the trip to Saipan.

"I didn't expect that the island is so preserved. It's really beautiful. I was a baby when I was here, but my expectation of the islands was not as better as what I've seen now," said Jane.

She recalled that the family kept pictures of Saipan, especially of her dad while fishing. "My father loved Saipan because of fishing. There are more pictures of my father with fish than with the family," she quipped.

She said her parents truly enjoyed their island adventure.

"They even went to Northern Islands! Every time they travel and go off-island, we're left to the care of Carmen's mother," she said.

The children and their mom had stayed on Saipan during their father's stint on Tinian.

"We lived in that area which is now occupied by a hotel [Grand Hotel]. The place is very different now," said Priscilla.

She said that during her stay on Saipan, she spent her time doing volunteer work such as teaching music at the Navy Independent School.

Life on Saipan at that time, she said, was filled with gatherings. "We're invited to a lot of parties," she recalled.

"Carmen's mom took care of my children whenever I was out," she said. "Now, I couldn't recognize her [Carmen]."

Meantime, Jane said she ran to her mom's house on New Year's Day when she saw the CNMI's float entry in the parade.

"I told her, mom, you should see this. She can't believe it. It's the first time for Saipan to join the parade, and it was just exhilarating to see it. The float was like no other. It had fresh flowers and the Chamorita girl is so prominent," she said.

The CNMI's entry—Harmony of the Pacific—to the 2004 Tournament of Roses Parade in Pasadena received a trophy for being the "Most Beautiful Entry Outside the Continental U.S."

Cicely, who is a child psychology specialist, said that, although they had only vague memories, it was an important aspect of their childhood.

For instance, Carmen's mom's care for them during their first crucial years helped them have a sense of security.

"We're told that we're carried on her back or we'd be wrapped around her waist. I think that's the custom here," she said.

Carmen, for her part, said that she had seen her mom always carrying the two girls around her waist.

"She believes in touching [when caring for the babies]," Carmen said.

fitial

'Extend teacher education program for five years'

By LIBERTY DONES
REPORTER

A bill was introduced Friday that aims to extend for another five years the postsecondary teacher education program which expires on Sept. 1, 2004.

House Committee on Education chair Rep. Justo Quitugua introduced House Bill 14-205, which seeks to repeal and reenact the law—3 CMC 1603—that presently provides for the teachers' program.

As proposed, Quitugua said the Act would require the submission of an annual report to the governor, the presiding officers of the Legislature, and the education commissioner on the administration of the program.

In particular, the report would

contain the number of students participating in the program, the number of students who have successfully completed an accredited teacher training program at a college or university, and the number of participating students who have returned to the CNMI to teach in schools.

He said the program shall expire five years after the Act's effectiveness, but nine months before the expiration, the administering agency and the education commissioner should jointly submit an assessment whether or not the program should be maintained and funded by the Commonwealth government.

Authorities believe that this program would further improve the quality of teachers in the CNMI.

mcd0

LOST AND FOUND

Lost hearing aid

Button-type hearing aid in small gray pouch. Lost at the Hollywood Theater 12 days ago. For those who found it, please call 322-3639.

WEATHER FORECAST

PICTURE TIME: 2:25 A.M., DECEMBER 17, 2003
Western North Pacific between Equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A monsoon trough extends from 6N130E through a tropical disturbance near 8N145E and finally to near 5N160E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms associated with the disturbance are found in the Mariana islands as well as between Yap and Chuuk or between 4N and 16N from 139E to 153E. Just east of the monsoon trough, a surface trough of low pressure continues to near the equator at 168E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are developing north and east of the trough or within 100 miles either side of a line from 9N160E to the equator at 173E, including Kosrae. Trade-wind convergence is producing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms across portions of the Marshall islands, between 4N and 16N from 170E to 180.


SAIPAN AND TINIAN

Cloudy and breezy with scattered showers, some locally heavy, and a slight chance of thunderstorms.

Winds: East at 20-25 mph. Gusting in 35 mph in showers.

Temperature: Lows near 78. Highs near 86.


GUAM AND ROTA

Cloudy and breezy with scattered showers, some locally heavy, and a slight chance of thunderstorms.

Winds: East at 20-25 mph. Gusting in 35 mph in showers.

Temperature: Lows near 78. Highs near 86.


PALAU

Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

Winds: Northeast at 10 kt.


POHNPEI

Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.

Winds: East at 10 kt.


YAP AND ULITHI

Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

Winds: Northeast at 10 kt.


KOSRAE

Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

Winds: Southeast at 10 kt.


CHUUK

Mostly cloudy with scattered showers with a slight chance of thunderstorms.

Winds: Northeast at 10-15 kt.


MAJURO

Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms.

Winds: East at 10-15 kt.

| CITY | FORECAST | HIGH | LOW |
|-----------------|---------------|-----------|-----------|
| Auckland | Cloudy | 61F (16C) | 49F (9C) |
| Beijing | Sunny | 44F (7C) | 26F (-3C) |
| Hong Kong | Partly Cloudy | 74F (23C) | 61F (16C) |
| Honolulu | Partly Cloudy | 86F (30C) | 72F (22C) |
| London, England | Cloudy | 56F (13C) | 45F (7C) |
| Los Angeles | Cloudy | 69F (21C) | 51F (11C) |
| Manila | Cloudy | 88F (31C) | 71F (22C) |
| Melbourne | Sunny | 73F (23C) | 54F (12C) |
| Miami | Partly Cloudy | 84F (29C) | 75F (24C) |
| New York, NY | Cloudy | 52F (11C) | 48F (9C) |
| Osaka | Rain | 54F (12C) | 46F (8C) |
| Paris | Cloudy | 53F (12C) | 41F (5C) |
| Pusan | Rain | 58F (14C) | 43F (6C) |
| Rome | Partly Cloudy | 55F (13C) | 39F (4C) |
| Salem, Oregon | Rain | 54F (12C) | 38F (3C) |
| San Francisco | Sunny | 64F (18C) | 47F (5C) |
| Seoul | Rain | 52F (11C) | 45F (7C) |
| Tokyo | Rain | 55F (13C) | 49F (9C) |
| Washington, DC | Cloudy | 60F (16C) | 48F (9C) |

Opinion

Saipan Tribune

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EDITORIAL



■ By RUTH L. TIGHE

Letters to the Editor

Saipan Tribune welcomes contributions. All letters intended for publication must include the writer's name, address and, if possible, fax or telephone number. Letters are edited for space, clarity and fairness.

Our World At War

jet holding

wellsfargo
ww2
+red

telesource ww2
cmyk

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pls. reduce to fit

verizon
60th ww2
cmyk

triple j

United States

United States

US has spent \$366M of \$18.4B on Iraq

By ALAN FRAM
AP WRITER

WASHINGTON (AP)—Only \$366 million has been spent of the \$18.4 billion President Bush and Congress provided last fall for rebuilding Iraq, a White House report showed Friday.

Despite the administration's initial emphasis on speedy reconstruction in Iraq, the amount is less than 2 percent of the rebuilding money lawmakers provided. The data cover expenditures through June 22.

The figure, in the latest quarterly report by the White House

budget office, marks the first time the administration has said how much of the money has been spent. The funds are meant to finance everything from training Iraqi police to starting small businesses to rebuilding the country's electric, water, health and oil production facilities.

The money was part of an \$87 billion package Bush signed Nov. 6, mostly for wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. The measure was approved after weeks in which administration officials and congressional Republican leaders said the money was needed quickly to hasten work,

stabilize Iraq and improve the security of U.S. troops there.

Until now, the administration has provided data only on the amount of money obligated, which means spent or owed for specific contracts. Friday's report said nearly \$5.3 billion is now owed or has been spent—compared with \$2.2 billion of the last report, for the period through March 24.

The White House budget office, in releasing the report on the Friday afternoon before the July 4 weekend, said the figures demonstrated that progress was

being made. Spokesman Chad Kolton cited another number that showed the budget office has drawn up specific plans to spend \$11.1 billion of the total.

"So most of the money is making its way through the pipeline," Kolton said.

Kolton also argued that the figures on actual spending mask the amount of work under way. He said that for many long-term contracts, checks are written only after substantial work is completed.

"Processes are specifically designed to be slower-moving to make sure taxpayers' money

is well spent," he said.

When the White House filed its first report in January, it estimated \$10.3 billion would have been spent through June 30.

Patrick Clawson, a former World Bank official now deputy director of the bipartisan Washington Institute for Near East Policy, said while understandable, the spending rate was too slow for the battle to win support from Iraqi citizens.

"The amount of money actually spent is what Iraqis have seen," Clawson said. He said the U.S. money committed to contracts is

simply "a promise to Iraqis that we plan to do something."

Clawson said the low expenditure rate is what usually happens in undeveloped countries that lack the capacity to spend much more.

The report said reconstruction in Iraq is moving forward, citing money that also has been spent from other accounts. It cited the immunization of 85 percent of Iraqi children, rebuilding of 2,500 schools and the provision of telephone service to 1.2 million Iraqis, 50 percent above the prewar total.

saipanice liberation

NYC's freedom tower construction to begin

By AMY WESTFELDT
AP WRITER

NEW YORK (AP)—Nearly three years after the twin towers fell, a 20-ton block of granite will be set in place Sunday to mark the official start of construction on the 1,776-foot tower that will rise on the site of the World Trade Center.

But plans for the site are far from being set in stone.

Details in the design of the \$1.5 billion Freedom Tower, announced last year as a compromise between feuding architects, are still changing. Trade center leaseholder Larry Silverstein still has not signed an anchor tenant for the 70-story tower. And a recent trial over insurance proceeds limited how

much he can collect, prompting some to question whether all five proposed office towers on the site will be built.

Despite the uncertainty, Sunday's cornerstone-laying is "an incredible step for the rebuilding of ground zero," said Daniel Libeskind, the designer who conceived the site's original master plan.

The Freedom Tower is set to rise in a corner of the site that still holds the ruins of a parking garage. At 1,776 feet, a height meant to symbolize the year of America's independence, it will be the tallest skyscraper in the world.

It will be several months before progress is seen above street level, and five years until it is completed. Crews will

spend most of the rest of the year demolishing parts of the garage, removing some sections for historic preservation.

Relatives of the Sept. 11 victims worry that construction will damage the nearby slurry wall, the last remnant of the tower complex, and the trade center footprint.

"This is a priceless piece of our American history," said Anthony Gardner, a Coalition of 9/11 Families member whose brother was killed. He said the construction is premature until more is done to preserve the footprint.

The new building will include at least 60 stories of offices and open space for stores and a restaurant at the top.

David Childs was hired by Silverstein to become the building's lead architect after Libe-

skind created the master plan. Childs tinkered with the design of the Freedom Tower to make it more slender, with windmills in an open area at the top instead of the "gardens in the sky" envisioned by Libeskind.

The building's height remained the same and, after much discussion, so did a 276-foot spire meant to resemble the Statue of Liberty's torch. But Childs said more changes are possible, including adjustments to the spire's structure that would change the positioning of cables underneath the spire.

"It's such a complicated building and it demands so much because it's got to be the best," Childs said.

He added that the initial design of the project represents



AP

The proposed Freedom Tower, center, by architect Skidmore, Owings & Merrill LLP, to be built at the site of New York's former World Trade Center, is seen in this Friday Dec. 19, 2003 file photo.

just "1 percent of the work."

Meanwhile, fears about the development's future were stoked earlier this year when a federal jury sharply limited Silverstein's insurance payments.

Silverstein, who leases the site for \$10 million a month from the Port Authority, had claimed that the destruction of the twin towers was two attacks, not one, and that he was entitled to an insurance payout of \$7 bil-

lion instead of \$3.5 billion. But he now has a chance to collect no more than \$4.5 billion.

The Port Authority recently asked Silverstein to provide more details about how he plans to honor his 99-year lease.

The developer has said he has an "unconditional right and obligation" to rebuild and plans to use insurance and "traditional financing methods" to pay for it.

Four killed in Kansas workplace shooting

KANSAS CITY, Kan. (AP)—A shooter at a meatpacking plant killed three people and wounded three others Friday afternoon before committing suicide, police said.

Deputy police chief Col. Sam Breshears corrected earlier reports from police that placed the number of dead as high as seven at the ConAgra Foods Inc. plant in Kansas City, Kan.

The three people wounded were being treated at The University of Kansas Hospital, spokesman Bob Hallinan said. Breshears said one was in critical condition.

A police dispatcher who did not give her name said a ConAgra employee walked into the cafeteria and began firing, then killed himself. Police said they received a call reporting the shooting at 5:12 p.m.

Meatpackers in white coats were among the crowd of employees gathered outside the plant, and workers' relatives and friends arrived at the scene as word spread.

Police spokeswoman Mary Solem said the employees were being kept in a safe location, and chaplains and victim advocates were there to "calm them down."

The ConAgra plant is located in an industrial section of the city, about three miles southwest of downtown Kansas City, Mo. Workers there process and slice meat for deli and sandwich products, company spokesman Bob McKeon said.

ConAgra is working with police in the investigation, but had no other details, McKeon said in a telephone interview from Omaha, Neb., where the company is headquartered.

"Our heartfelt sympathies go out to the families of the employees who have been involved in this tragedy," McKeon said.

The shooting came a year and a day after an employee of a manufacturing plant in Jefferson City, Mo., shot eight people, three fatally, before killing himself in front of the city's police headquarters.

shipping liberation



stevedore

hermans
+red

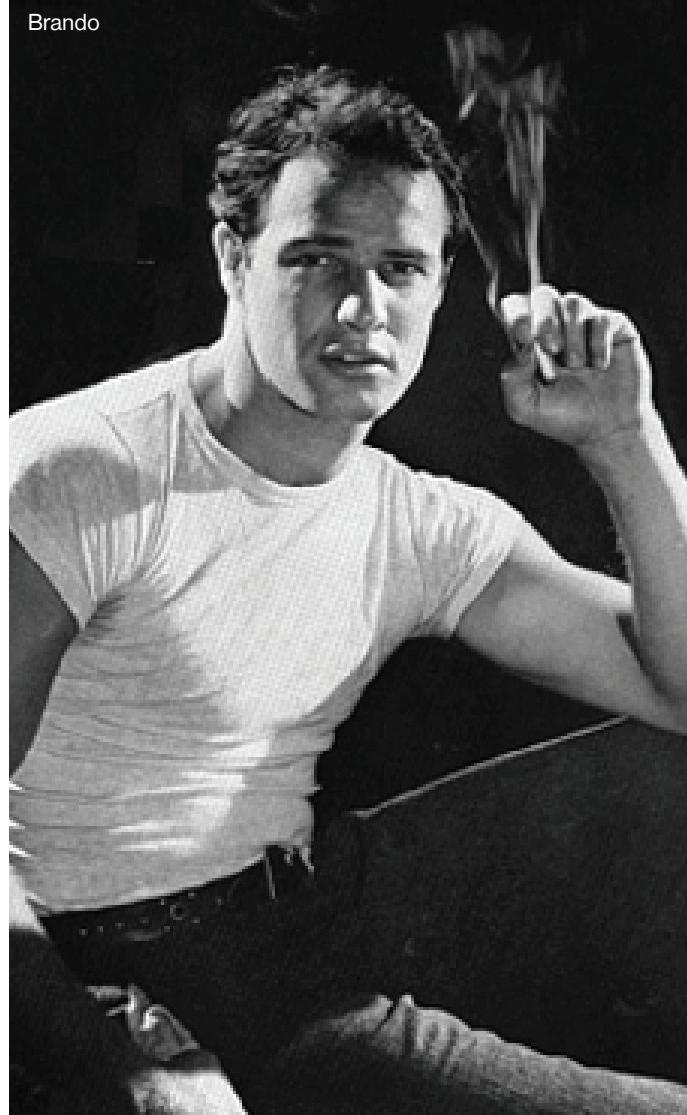
Life & Style

Brando redefined acting for a generation

By ANTHONY BREZNICAN
AP ENTERTAINMENT WRITER

Anyone could imitate Marlon Brando—it was as simple as a scowl, a nasal voice and a scratch of the cheek—but few could copy the skill that made him an icon.

The two-time Oscar winner, who died at age 80, popularized the Method style of performing, which stripped away grandiose theatricality in favor of a deeper psychological approach to inhabiting a character.



Generations of young actors were electrified by Brando's work as conflicted characters in "A Streetcar Named Desire," "On the Waterfront" and "The Wild One," men who were emotionally vulnerable but savagely dangerous at the same time.

He was the bridge between the heroic screen purity of earlier stars such as Cary Grant, Gary Cooper and Henry Fonda and a generation of gritty, conflicted anti-heroes played by the likes of Robert De Niro, Jack Nicholson and Dustin Hoffman.

"He was like a godfather to many young actors worldwide but particularly in this country," said Robert Duvall, Brando's "Godfather" co-star.

Even directors who never worked with him benefited indirectly—actors were more willing to push themselves, delve deeper into their own psyches,

song titled "I Want to Be Like Marlon Brando."

His contemporaries also were impressed. "Marlon Brando is the epitome of actors today, and all actors since the 1950s have been mimicking him," Tony Curtis said.

But merely learning the tricks of Method acting didn't guarantee a great performance.

What set Brando apart was the way that technique unleashed his inner conflict. The same qualities that made Brando a world-class actor also

made him, by some accounts, a world-class pain.

The method seemed to harness his anger, warmth, insecurity, charm, cruelty and weakness—separating those traits from the eccentric streak that would define him later in life.

"He was tremendously respected as an actor. I think his personal conduct or his beliefs or attitudes affected people," said the actress Janet Leigh, who knew him socially. "Not in a good way."

His tricks in front of the camera varied. He was famous for re-

hearsals endlessly, for reshooting scenes again and again.

Other times, like on "The Godfather," he would tape sheets of paper imprinted with his lines to co-stars Al Pacino and Duvall, reading off their chests while they faced away from the camera. He claimed it added spontaneity to his readings.

Eva Marie Saint, his co-star in "On the Waterfront," said he could incorporate bits of real life into the script.

The famous scene in which he picks up her dropped glove

and uses it to toy with her reluctant and shy character was originally written without the glove. She dropped it in a rehearsal, and Brando began to toy with it while they read lines, pulling it over her hand.

Director Elia Kazan liked the suggestiveness of that, and asked them to do the same thing when the camera was rolling.

"This was an accident, and another actor would have picked it up and restarted the scene," Saint said. "That was the genius of Marlon, always working."

bog lib

Cosby has harsh words for black community

By DON BABWIN
AP WRITER

CHICAGO (AP)—Bill Cosby went off on another tirade against the black community Thursday, telling a room full of activists that black children are running around not knowing how to read or write and “going nowhere.”

He also had harsh words for struggling black men, telling them: “Stop beating up your women because you can’t find a job.”

Cosby made headlines in May when he upbraided some poor blacks for their grammar and accused them of squandering opportunities the civil rights movement gave them. He shot back Thursday, saying his

detractors were trying in vain to hide the black community’s “dirty laundry.”

“Let me tell you something, your dirty laundry gets out of school at 2:30 every day, it’s cursing and calling each other n----- as they’re walking up and down the street,” Cosby said during an appearance at the Rainbow/PUSH Coalition & Citizenship Education Fund’s annual conference.

“They think they’re hip,” the entertainer said. “They can’t read; they can’t write. They’re laughing and giggling, and they’re going nowhere.”

In his remarks in May at a commemoration of the anniversary of the Brown v. Board of Education desegregation decision, Cosby

denounced some blacks’ grammar and said those who commit crimes and wind up behind bars “are not political prisoners.”

“I can’t even talk the way these people talk, ‘Why you ain’t,’ ‘Where you is’ ... and I blamed the kid until I heard the mother talk,” Cosby said then. “And then I heard the father talk ... Everybody knows it’s important to speak English except these knuckleheads. You can’t be a doctor with that kind of crap coming out of your mouth.”

Cosby elaborated Thursday on his previous comments in a talk interrupted several times by applause. He castigated some blacks, saying that they cannot simply blame whites for problems such as teen pregnancy

and high school dropout rates.

“For me there is a time ... when we have to turn the mirror around,” he said. “Because for me it is almost analgesic to talk about what the white man is doing against us. And it keeps a person frozen in their seat, it keeps you frozen in your hole you’re sitting in.”

Cosby lamented that the racial slurs once used by those who lynched blacks are now a favorite expression of black children. And he blamed parents.

“When you put on a record and that record is yelling ‘n---- this and n---- that’ and you’ve got your little 6-year-old, 7-year-old sitting in the back seat of the car, those children hear that,” he said.



AP

Bill Cosby, with Jesse Jackson, left, head of the Rainbow Push Coalition, blasts critics who complained when he upbraided low income blacks for squandering opportunities afforded them by the civil rights movement, Thursday, July 1, 2004, at the civil rights organization's annual conference in Chicago. Cosby said that the “dirty laundry” critics don’t want aired are the black children without the most basic skills to succeed.

Critical defense motion sealed in Jackson case

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The judge in the Michael Jackson child molestation case sealed one of the most critical defense motions in the case without comment Friday, continuing a pattern of secrecy he has imposed throughout the proceedings.

The sealing order by Santa Barbara County Superior Court Judge Rodney Melville came in response to a request from Jackson’s attorney to keep secret the motion that seeks dismissal of charges against the entertainer.

An attorney representing media organizations including The Associated Press promised to oppose the seal.

The ruling means the public

will not know on what grounds Jackson is challenging the indictment that charges him with committing a lewd act upon a child, administering alcohol, and conspiracy to commit child abduction, false imprisonment and extortion.

Details from the indictment, including exactly what acts Jackson is accused of committing and the names of his alleged coconspirators, also are being kept secret.

Jackson’s lawyer, Thomas Mesereau Jr., said in his request that sealing was needed “based on the overriding interests of Mr. Jackson’s rights to due process and a fair trial.”

Studios eyes new anti-piracy tech for movies

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The organization behind the Academy Awards is eyeing new technology to prevent a sequel to last year’s embarrassing attempt to protect films by not distributing them to Oscar voters at all.

The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences has endorsed a plan to distribute about 6,000 special DVD players to members. Specially encrypted discs, known as screeners, would be earmarked for a specific academy voter and would play only on that person’s machine.

“It’s extremely impressive,” said academy President Frank Pierson. “It certainly looked foolproof to us.”

The player also would imprint an invisible watermark on the disc each time it is viewed. In addition, if someone uses a camcorder to tape the movie as it is playing on a monitor, that image would contain information on the person assigned the machine.

Several studios said they were considering participating in the effort, but no studio has made a formal commitment.

Similar watermarking technology used last year on lower-quality videocassettes helped authorities track and convict an Illinois man who had obtained screeners from an academy member and duplicated hundreds of illegal copies for sale.

ctsi liberation

Auction involving Bennett goes awry

BALTIMORE (AP)—Johns Hopkins Medicine made a full refund to Gary Pusateri of Washington, who bid \$15,000 at a charity auction, expecting to eat dinner with Tony Bennett.

Pusateri, 52, placed the winning bid on a package that said it included dinner with Bennett after a concert last weekend.

He has received a refund, Hopkins spokesman Kenneth Frager said Thursday.

Pusateri made a smaller donation to the Robert Packard Center for ALS Research at Hopkins, and gave back a diamond bracelet he received as a result of his winning bid, Frager said.

The charity auction was held moments before Bennett took the stage at a concert to raise money for ALS (amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, better known as Lou Gehrig's disease) research at Johns Hopkins.

Pusateri dined in the same Little Italy restaurant as Bennett, but on a separate floor. Hopkins officials blamed an inaccurate script that was given to the auctioneer for creating the impression that the winning bidder would dine with the singer.

Bennett, who wasn't aware of the auction, demanded Wednesday that Pusateri get his money back.

Hopkins released a statement saying that in the future, it would "take appropriate steps to ensure that accurate and specific descriptions of the items being auctioned are provided, so that similar missteps are not repeated."

Willie Nelson to sing but not play July 4

DALLAS (AP)—Country star Willie Nelson said Thursday he'll sing but won't be able to play guitar at his annual Fourth of July picnic because of a slow recovery from carpal tunnel surgery.

Nelson, 71, said he has unusual soreness and swelling in his left hand six weeks after the wrist surgery aimed at relieving the painful nerve condition.

"Naturally I'd love to play, but it hurts so much that I'm not yearning to play. I'm willing to wait until it's not hurting," he said from Hawaii, where he has a home.

Nelson said he'll still appear at a Saturday event in Roswell, N.M., for friend Merle Haggard and at the picnic in Fort Worth on Sunday, but won't make any other appearances in July.

Nelson had the surgery after apparently suffering so much pain that he couldn't finish a May 8 show in Las Vegas. The surgery was done May 19, and Nelson had a large cast on his left hand and forearm on May 26 when he accepted an award with Toby Keith at the Academy of Country Music awards.

"I can tell it's getting a little better each day, but I can tell by the rate it's improving, it's not going to be ready tomorrow," he said.

In addition to Nelson, acts at the daylong Fourth of July picnic include Haggard, Ray Price and Asleep at the Wheel.



AP
Tony Bennett arrives for the Vanity Fair Oscar Party, hosted by Editor Graydon Carter on Sunday, in this 2004 file photo, in Los Angeles.

'Lord of the Rings' director cashing in

WELLINGTON, New Zealand (AP)—The box office success of Peter Jackson's "Lord of the Rings" trilogy has made him very rich. Sales of merchandise linked to movies of the J.R.R. Tolkien books are set to make him even richer.

The Wellington-based director saw his wealth balloon from \$45 million last year to \$118 million this year, according to a list of rich New Zealanders published Friday in a National Business

Review magazine survey.

"This could double once the sales of other merchandise, including toys and DVDs, are taken into account," said the magazine's editor in chief, Nevil Gibson. "Because of this, his wealth will continue to increase steadily in the years to come, regardless of the success of his new ventures, such as 'King Kong.'"

Jackson made Oscar history earlier this year when the last installment of the trilogy, "The

Return of the King," won all 11 Oscars for which it was nominated, including best picture and best director. He's now working on a remake of "King Kong."

But Jackson will have to make even more hugely successful movies before he can topple businessman Graeme Hart from the position of richest New Zealander.

Hart's wealth was estimated at \$895 million in the fiscal year ending in June.

Tom Cruise to salute Tillman at ESPYs

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Tom Cruise will introduce a tribute to late football star Pat Tillman during the 12th annual ESPY Awards, which recognize achievement in sports.

Tillman left a \$3.6 million contract as an Arizona Cardinals safety to join the Army and was killed in Afghanistan on April 22. He was 27.

"I am honored to take part in remembering and celebrating the life of Pat Tillman, someone whose courage and integrity I respect and admire," Cruise said



Cruise

The tribute will be part of the awards ceremony to be taped July 14 at Hollywood's Kodak Theatre. The show, hosted by actor-comedian Jamie Foxx, will air July 18 on ESPN.

During last year's ceremonies, Tillman and his brother, Kevin, were recipients of the Arthur Ashe Courage Award. This year's recipient will be soccer star George Weah, who has worked in his war-torn homeland of Liberia to reintegrate former child soldiers into their communities.

Rocker David Crosby guilty in gun charge

NEW YORK (AP)—Rock musician David Crosby, founding member of the Byrds and Crosby, Stills, Nash and Young, pleaded guilty Friday to a gun charge, was fined \$5,000 and sentenced to a conditional discharge.

Crosby, 62, pleaded guilty in Manhattan's state Supreme Court to attempted criminal possession of a weapon in the third degree as part of a plea deal. The charge carries a maximum penalty of four years in prison upon conviction.

Justice Michael R. Ambrecht said the case was discharged on

the conditions that Crosby pay the fine and the court surcharges and avoid getting arrested again. Crosby's lawyer, Scott Herschman, said his client planned to pay the fine immediately.

The singer was arrested March 6 at the DoubleTree Suites Hotel in midtown Manhattan. Police said they found a Colt .45-caliber handgun, three clips of .45-caliber ammunition and two knives in his luggage.

Police also said the musician had a plastic bag containing an ounce of marijuana, a wooden container with a marijuana cigarette in it, a

package of cigarette rolling papers and two other plastic containers with marijuana residue.

Crosby was arrested just hours after performing with his band, CPR, at a Wayne, N.J., college. He had checked out of the hotel but left behind a piece of luggage, police said. A hotel worker went through the luggage looking for identification, found the marijuana, gun and knives, and called police.

Crosby later called the hotel to say he'd be returning to pick up the luggage. Police greeted him when he showed up.

Honor our freedom's authors as you celebrate the fourth

By AVIGAIL VAN BUREN

DEAR READERS: Today marks the 228th year since the Declaration of Independence was adopted by the Second Continental Congress in Philadelphia.

The resolution for the Declaration was introduced June 7, 1776, by Richard Henry Lee.

Do you know who seconded the motion? John Adams—who would later become our second U.S. president.

Any idea how many states he was president of? (I confess, I had to call the public library to find out.) There were only 16 when John Adams took office.

Do you know who wrote our Declaration of Independence? A committee of five. Thomas Jefferson is credited with writing most of it, assisted by John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, Robert R. Livingston and Roger Sherman.

And was it enthusiastically adopted? Heck, no! The Congress "suggested" a number of changes—and you can imagine how poor Jefferson felt about that. (About the same as any author who has to report to an editor.) Do you care to know how many changes were made by the "tweakers"? Eighty-six. (It makes one wonder if that's where the term "eighty-sixed"—slang for someone or something ejected or rejected—originated.)

The Lee-Adams Resolution of Independence was adopted on July 2, 1776. The Declaration, which gives the details of the resolution, was adopted on the evening of July 4.

So why don't we celebrate on July 2? Beats me -- Happy Fourth of July one and all!

Readers, as you and I celebrate our freedom, won and secured by members of our military over the years, let's remember our troops in Iraq and around the world who risk their safety every day on our behalf. Send messages of appreciation and support via www.OperationDearAbby.net. Trust me, they will be received with gratitude.

DEAR ABBY: What is wrong with men that they don't have the energy to pick up a phone when they're going to be late and let their wives (or girlfriends) know? After an hour we get anxious; after two, we get worried.

After three hours had passed with no word from my husband, I called the police. They assured me that there had been no accidents in the area. I considered asking them if they would be willing to arrest my husband for causing so much worry and making me look like such a fool for having called them.

We women are equally to blame. As soon as we find out that everything's OK, our hearts melt with relief and we forgive them on the spot. I need to know how to stay angry long enough to let my husband know this is unacceptable behavior. Hello! There are pay phones all over the place. You men can let us know what's going on at any time.

KAREN IN LILY DALE, N.Y.

DEAR KAREN: I don't blame you for being miffed. Three hours is a long time to wonder if a loved one is dead, injured or simply inconsiderate.

I have another idea. Rather than "staying angry," give your darling a cell phone. Then if he's more than a half-hour late, instead of calling the police—call HIM.

DEAR ABBY: My 16-year-old daughter recently told me that my ex-husband is being married on a trip to Hawaii. Is it appropriate for me to congratulate him since he has not mentioned the engagement to me? We only speak when he's calling on the phone for our daughter.

PUZZLED ABOUT "EX" ETIQUETTE

DEAR PUZZLED: By all means congratulate him and wish him luck. And when you do, tell him that good news travels fast.

CONFIDENTIAL TO PAULINE PHILLIPS IN MINNEAPOLIS: Happy 86th birthday to the sweetest mother in the world. You are my example and my inspiration, and I love you.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write *Dear Abby* at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

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Three lead Western Open; Woods trails by 7

By NANCY ARMOUR
AP SPORTS WRITER



LEMONT, Ill. (AP)—Tiger Woods watched as his ball clipped the top of a large willow tree and fell 30 yards in front of him. Another swing moved the ball a measly few feet. Finally, on the third try, he punched out to the fairway, still 40 yards shy of the pin.

If ever there was a day when his extraordinary cut streak was going to end, this was it. But as he's done time and again, Woods wriggled his way out of danger Friday, holing a 60-foot putt for the first of back-to-back birdies that kept his weekend plans at the Western Open intact.

"It's just a matter of always playing hard," he said. "The old saying goes, 'You can't have the switch on and off.' You've got to have it always on, and that's how I've always played."

He finished with a 73 that put him at 1-over 143 for two rounds—right on the projected cut line. But with the wind already starting to blow, Woods knew he was safe.

Sure enough, when play was completed 6 1/2 hours later, the line was 2 over and Woods had made his 126th consecutive cut, the longest streak in PGA Tour history.

"You would think surely there would come a situation where he was so far against the wall that it would be near impossible, and the guy finds a way to do it," said Charles Howell

Tiger Woods hits from the rough toward the 16th green during the second round of the Western Open Friday, July 2, 2004, at Cog Hill Golf Club in Lemont, Ill. Woods was 1-over par for the day and even for the tournament after playing nine holes Friday morning.

AP



III, who shares the lead with Matt Gogel and Steve Lowery.

"I honestly think he can tie one of his hands behind his back and make him play left-handed, and he would still make the cut."

As rocky as his first two rounds were, Woods isn't out of this thing, either. Howell (67), Gogel (64) and Lowery (68) are only seven strokes ahead, at 6-under 136. First-round leader Loren Roberts is three strokes back after a 4-over 75.

"Loren has a chance to run away with this thing if he wants to," Woods said. "If he doesn't do that, there are a lot of guys right there with a chance."

Woods has gone from flirting with the cut to kissing the trophy before, winning the 2000 Canadian Open after being one shot better than the cut with four holes to play. But this isn't the way to quiet the talk about his slumping game, especially with the British Open looming.

Sure, he has three top-5 finishes in his last four starts and is fourth in scoring average. But he's 0-for-8 in the majors, has won just twice since his victory at last year's Western and is doing things on the course that make him look like a mere mortal.

Like the par-4 No. 3 on Friday. Using an iron off the tee, Woods hit his drive way left and into the rough. He appeared to rush his second shot, and it clipped the willow and left him with an even worse lie, in a gully of rough with a tree in front of him.

"My adventures began from there," Woods said.

A vicious hack moved his ball only a few feet. He finally punched out, then chipped onto the green and made a 10-foot putt for the double-bogey. He hit his next tee shot left again, into another clump of rough behind trees.

He still had a chance to save par, but

his 19-foot putt rolled about 18 inches past the hole. That left him at 3 over for the tournament—and two shots on the wrong side of the cut line.

But just when he seems finished, Woods puts on one of those amazing displays that only he can pull off. On the sixth hole, he rolled a 60-foot uphill birdie putt so true it looked as if it was on a track to the hole. The crowd roared as it dropped in, and Woods lifted his putter in triumph and touched the tip of his cap, a brief smile of relief crossing his face.

He followed with a 10-footer on the next hole to get back to 1 over.

"I figured if I birdied the last five, I should put myself back at 2 under. That would have put me at five off the lead," he said. "That's kind of how I was focusing."

He missed a birdie on No. 8 when his 15-foot putt burned the left edge of the cup. And he seemed headed for more trouble off the tee again on the par-5 No. 9, pushing his shot right and into a trap. His second shot clipped a tree and dropped straight down, leaving him 260 yards from the green.

But he made a beautiful recovery, hitting a 2-iron to 10 feet from the hole.

"Get there!" Woods yelled as the ball took off, and a few seconds later, whoops of appreciation told him it had.

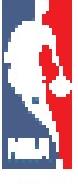
He had to settle for par when his birdie putt slid 11 inches past the hole, but it was good enough.

"It's pride and playing. And always giving your best all the time," Woods said when asked to explain his streak. "There are many times where I probably should have missed, but I made it just through determination. Or luck. Sometimes the cuts actually come back toward me."

"It's just one of those things where you've got to always play hard."

Duke waits to see if Krzyzewski will leave

By AARON BEARD
AP SPORTS WRITER

 **DURHAM, N.C. (AP)—**When Duke's season ended with a Final Four loss to Connecticut in April, there was no indication that Mike Krzyzewski might have coached his last game with the Blue Devils.

Now, Duke fans and officials wait anxiously to find out whether the Hall of Famer will leave the elite program he has guided for 802 games over 24 years to become coach of the Los Angeles Lakers.

"I think people are honestly clueless about what's going to happen," Duke senior associate athletics director Chris Kennedy said Friday. "I don't think Mike knows what's going to happen right now."

Krzyzewski met with Los Angeles Lakers general manager Mitch Kupchak on Thursday to discuss the NBA team's coaching vacancy. Lakers spokesman John Black refused to comment on reports that Krzyzewski was offered the job.

Kennedy said he didn't know if Krzyzewski had been offered the job. Krzyzewski has been unavailable for comment since holding an offseason news conference Tuesday. He gave no indication he might leave the program.

"My understanding is that he's in seclusion some place," Kennedy said. "He needs time and distance."

A secretary stopped reporters who tried to visit the Duke basketball offices Friday, saying there were no coaches there.

The 57-year-old Krzyzewski has led the Blue Devils to three national championships, and the school gave him a lifetime contract three years ago.

The hardwood at Cameron Indoor Stadium is named "Coach K Court," and the grassy plot outside, where students camp out to attend games, is known as "Krzyzewskiville."

On Thursday night, after Duke officials acknowledged Krzyzewski was talking with the Lakers, about 100 students and fans gathered there with signs and flags urging the coach to stay. On Friday afternoon, the only activity around Cameron was a youth basketball camp.

"The timetable is Mike's," said John Burness, Duke's senior vice president for public and government relations. "We want to make sure he has time to make the decision that's best for him and his family, and hopefully for Duke and college basketball."

Duke has not publicized the value of Krzyzewski's lifetime contract, but Burness said it would be "perfectly reasonable to assume" the school would modify the contract in an effort to keep the coach.

"You cannot replace the player that goes, and you lose the player you would have gotten. It's a double loss," Krzyzewski said Tuesday.

leaves



Duke Director of Athletics Joe Alleva enters the media interview room at Cameron Indoor Stadium, Wednesday, July 1, 2004, in Durham, N.C.

"Take Shaun and Luol ... In the end, we had them for one year. All the time that was spent, you have to figure out if it's worth doing that or not doing that."

Krzyzewski has had several flirtations with the NBA and has said he came close to leaving Duke in 1990 to coach the Boston Celtics.

The Lakers announced June 18—three days after losing to the Detroit Pistons in the NBA Finals—that Phil Jackson wouldn't return. Jackson, who signed a five-year, \$30 million contract with the Lakers in June 1999, guided them to championships in his first three seasons.

Kenny Randolph, father of Duke forward Shavlik Randolph, said Friday he hopes Krzyzewski stays in Durham. But he said he wouldn't be angry at the coach if he left.

"When I first heard, my heart sort of sunk," he said. "Then, all within 15 to 20 seconds, you start to think of all the good times."

"You can't get angry with someone for moving on with their life. I'm sure if he leaves, there are very good reasons behind it. ... If that's what he wishes to do, we certainly wish him the best and will always root for him."

Rain delays men's Wimbledon semifinals



WIMBLEDON,

England (AP)—

Yawn. A day after a pair of enthralling, three-set women's semifinals enlivened Wimbledon, unrelenting rain and uneven matchups conspired to produce a dreary Friday on which neither men's semifinal was completed.

When play was stopped at 7:15 p.m., defending champion and top-seeded Roger Federer held a 6-2, 6-3, 4-3 edge against No. 10 Sébastien Grosjean. No. 2 Andy Roddick led 63rd-ranked Mario Ancic 6-

4, 4-3, 30-40 in the other semifinal, originally slated to follow Federer-Grosjean on Centre Court but moved to Court 1 in hopes of getting it in.

At 8 p.m., when tournament officials decided to call it a day, Roddick scurried to a car waiting for him right outside the club's gate.

The semifinals will resume at noon Saturday, which also features the women's final between two-time defending champion Serena Williams and Maria Sharapova.

"I've just been enjoying the

moment," said the 17-year-old Sharapova, the third-youngest women's finalist in tournament history. "Every time I think about it—that I'm in the final—it's an amazing feeling, like it gives me goose bumps."

She earned her way into the title match by coming back from a set and 3-1 down to beat 1999 champion Lindsay Davenport 2-6, 7-6 (5), 6-1 Thursday. Williams erased the exact same deficit to beat Amelie Mauresmo 6-7 (4), 7-5, 6-4, reaching her first Grand Slam final since Aug. 1 knee surgery.

Cubs beat White Sox, 6-2

CHICAGO (AP)—Carlos Zambrano settled down after a shaky first—benefiting when umpires reversed an initial call and ruled a grand slam foul—and pitched the Cubs to a 6-2 win over the White Sox on Friday.

Zambrano (9-3) allowed two hits in 6 1-3 innings before leaving in the seventh with a cramp in his right forearm after throwing 123 pitches.

Indians 15, Reds 2

In Cincinnati, Ronnie Belliard hit the first of Cleveland's four homers, clearing the way for Japanese college star Kazuhito Tadano to win his first start for the Indians.

Tadano, shunned by Japanese pro teams aware that he had appeared in a gay porn video, got his first keepsake moment in the majors, striking out a career-high 10 in seven innings.

Expos 2, Blue Jays 0

In San Juan, Puerto Rico, Livan Hernandez pitched a four-hitter for his fourth complete game of the season and Tony Batista drove in two runs as Montreal blanked Toronto.

Hernandez (6-7) struck out five and walked one to beat David Bush, who lost in his major league debut.

Devil Rays 4, Marlins 2

In Miami, Aubrey Huff hit his 11th homer of the season and drove in three runs to lead Tampa Bay past Florida.

Huff's two-out, two-run shot to straightaway center off Carl Pavano broke a 2-2 tie. Huff also had an RBI single in Tampa Bay's two-run third.

Astros 7, Rangers 5

In Houston, Morgan Ensberg hit a two-run homer in the eighth inning, his first of the season as Houston downed Texas.

Carlos Beltran had an RBI in his home debut for Houston, and Roy Oswalt (7-6) earned his 50th career win. Lance Berkman singled in a run and snatched away Alfonso Soriano's bid for a homer in the fourth with a terrific leaping catch.

Mets 11, Yankees 2

In New York, Kaz Matsui hom-

ered twice and drove in five runs to help the Mets trounce the Yankees stop Mike Mussina's eight-game winning streak.

Derek Jeter started for the Yankees a day after a dangerous dive into the stands sent him to the hospital.

Braves 6, Red Sox 3, 12 innings

In Atlanta, Nick Green hit a tying sacrifice fly off Keith Foulke in the 10th inning, then hit a three-run homer off Anastacio Martinez (2-1) in the 12th as Atlanta defeated Boston.

A night after Boston couldn't hold a 4-3 lead in the 13th inning of a 5-4 loss at Yankee Stadium, the Red Sox stumbled again.

Rockies 9, Tigers 8, 10 innings

In Denver, Charles Johnson tied it on a three-run homer with two outs in the ninth inning, and Colorado scored twice in the 10th on bunt singles to beat Detroit and end a five-game losing streak.

The Tigers led 7-4 heading into the bottom of the ninth, but closer Ugueth Urbina gave up a single to Todd Helton and walked Larry Walker.

Angels 7, Dodgers 3

In Anaheim, California, Tim Salmon and Robb Quinlan each drove in two runs as Anaheim used a five-run first inning to beat Los Angeles and end a four-game losing streak.

Aaron Sele (5-0) pitched seven innings and allowed three runs on just three hits, including a solo homer by Alex Cora and a two-run shot by Paul Lo Duca.

Giants 7, Athletics 3

In San Francisco, Barry Bonds hit his third homer in three days, and Ray Durham hit two homers and drove in a career-high five runs to lead San Francisco past Oakland.

Marquis Grissom also homered for the Giants, who scored at least six runs for starter Kirk Rueter (4-6) for the fourth time this season in his 17 starts.

Twins 6, Diamondbacks 5

In Phoenix, Danny Bautista's

error allowed Luis Rivas to score in the ninth inning as Minnesota delivered Arizona a loss in Al Pedrique's debut after the Diamondbacks' manager after Bob Brenly was fired.

Minnesota stopped a five-game losing streak and pulled within one game of the first-place Chicago White Sox in the American League Central.

Padres 7, Royals 5

In San Diego, Phil Nevin homered in consecutive at-bats and Humberto Quintero, Brian Buchanan and Brian Giles also connected to lead San Diego past Kansas City.

Jake Peavy (5-2) returned from the disabled list and combined with five relievers on a seven-hitter.

Cardinals 11, Mariners 2

In St. Louis, Woody Williams came back stronger after a 2-hour rain delay and combined with three relievers on a six-hitter as St. Louis thrashed Seattle.

Williams (6-6) also doubled and scored for the Cardinals, who stopped a three-game losing streak.

Orioles 7, Phillies 6, 16 innings

In Philadelphia, Miguel Tejada hit an RBI single in the 16th inning to give Baltimore its third straight win and lift it out of last place in the AL East.

Tejada tied the game at 6 with a solo homer off Tim Worrell in the seventh, but both bullpens then pitched seven scoreless innings.

Pirates 12, Brewers, 2, first game

Pirates, 8, Brewers 1, second game

In Pittsburgh, Jason Bay had an eight-RBI game for the second time in less than a year and the Pirates ran their winning streak to seven by beating the Milwaukee Brewers for a doubleheader sweep.

Tony Alvarez's grand slam supported another strong start by Oliver Perez in the opener, an 8-1 Pirates victory that ended Milwaukee's five-game winning streak. Perez (4-4) struck out 11 in seven innings to out-pitch Doug Davis (8-6).

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

| | W | L | Pct | GB |
|-----------|----|----|------|-------|
| New York | 50 | 27 | .649 | — |
| Boston | 42 | 36 | .538 | 8 1/2 |
| Tampa Bay | 39 | 38 | .506 | 11 |
| Baltimore | 34 | 42 | .447 | 5 1/2 |
| Toronto | 35 | 45 | .438 | 6 1/2 |

Central Division

| | | | | |
|-------------|----|----|------|-------|
| Chicago | 42 | 34 | .553 | — |
| Minnesota | 42 | 36 | .538 | 1 |
| Cleveland | 39 | 39 | .500 | 4 |
| Detroit | 37 | 41 | .474 | 6 |
| Kansas City | 29 | 48 | .377 | 3 1/2 |

West Division

| | | | | |
|---------|----|----|------|-------|
| Texas | 44 | 33 | .571 | — |
| Oakland | 44 | 34 | .564 | — 1/2 |
| Anaheim | 42 | 37 | .532 | 3 |
| Seattle | 32 | 46 | .410 | 2 1/2 |

Yesterday's Games

| |
|---|
| Chicago Cubs 6, Chicago White Sox 2 |
| Montreal 2, Toronto 0 |
| Baltimore 7, Philadelphia 6, 16 innings |
| N.Y. Mets 11, N.Y. Yankees 2 |
| Cleveland 15, Cincinnati 2 |
| Atlanta 6, Boston 3, 12 innings |
| Tampa Bay 4, Florida 2 |
| Houston 7, Texas 5 |
| Colorado 9, Detroit 8, 10 innings |
| St. Louis 11, Seattle 2 |
| San Diego 7, Kansas City 5 |
| Minnesota 6, Arizona 5 |
| Anaheim 7, Los Angeles 3 |
| San Francisco 7, Oakland 3 |

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

| | | | | |
|--------------|----|----|------|-------|
| Philadelphia | 41 | 37 | .526 | — |
| Florida | 41 | 39 | .513 | 1 |
| New York | 39 | 39 | .500 | 2 |
| Atlanta | 39 | 40 | .494 | 2 1/2 |
| Montreal | 27 | 51 | .346 | 14 |

Central Division

| | | | | |
|------------|----|----|------|----|
| St. Louis | 47 | 32 | .595 | — |
| Chicago | 44 | 35 | .557 | 3 |
| Cincinnati | 42 | 37 | .532 | 5 |
| Milwaukee | 41 | 36 | .532 | 5 |
| Houston | 41 | 38 | .519 | 6 |
| Pittsburgh | 34 | 43 | .442 | 12 |

West Division

| | | | | |
|------------------|----|------|------|-------|
| San Francisco 45 | 35 | .563 | — | |
| San Diego | 42 | 37 | .532 | 2 1/2 |
| Los Angeles | 40 | 37 | .519 | 3 1/2 |
| Colorado | 29 | 49 | .372 | 15 |
| Arizona | 29 | 51 | .363 | 16 |

Yesterday's Games

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The Week in Sports

What's up with the weather?



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Golf great Bruce Devlin pose with some of Saipan's top golf players during the first round of the 2nd Annual NMC Foundation Open last June 26 at the Kingfisher Golf Links.



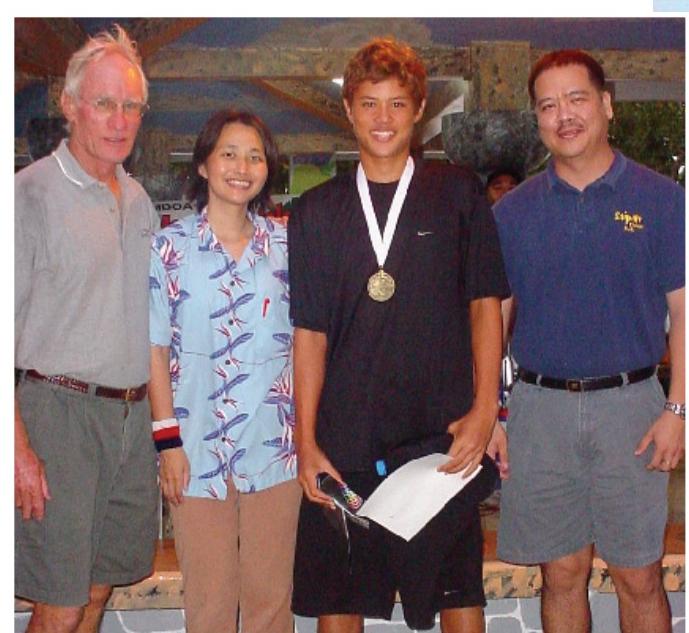
Lt. Gov. Diego T. Benavente with Devlin. Benavente scored a coup when he won A Flight of the NMC Foundation Open.



Sachi Nakamura was the fastest woman in the shortened non-Escape from Managa Island race held off the waters of the uninhabited island last June 26.



Team PIC composed of, from left, Marino Paungiulug, Diana Heintz, and Keiko Motoyoshi spell their company's name after completing the open water swim.



Bill Sakovich, left, joins a PDI staffer and MVA's Martin Duenas in awarding Escape from Managa Island third placer Juan Camacho.

PHOTOS AND TEXT BY MARK RABAGO
REPORTER

Sports events were cancelled left and right as Typhoon Tingting rendered venues unplayable or without power last week.

Organizers of the 2nd Annual Escape from Managa Island torpedoed the planned crossing from the tourist hotspot to Hafa Adai Beach Hotel last June 26 after support craft had trouble dealing with the waves.

On Sunday, the 2nd Annual NMC Foundation Open scratched its second round after the course at Kingfisher Golf Links was flooded by the typhoon's heavy rains the night before.

Over at the American Memorial Park, FILATA put off the quarterfinals and semifinals of the Century Insurance Co. Tennis Classic doubles competition after Tingting rendered the tennis courts unplayable.

In baseball, both the playoffs of the Saipan Major League and the District Championships of the Major and Junior divisions of the Saipan Little League were postponed also because of the downpour.

The 2004 season of the Rotary Club of Saipan Summer Youth Basketball League was also put on hold indefinitely following Monday's cancellation of its kick-off.



Multi-Line Supply accepts the second-place trophy of the 15th season of the Thursday Night League Thursday at the Capitol Bowling Center.



Lee Ganacias, Andy Padilla and Hong Sik Baik during a press conference Wednesday announcing their venture into sports and entertainment promotion at the BJ Halina Restaurant.



Visminda-Country House's Jawn Joyner receives his PTC gift certificate after being named best player of the game Saturday.



What's up with the weather?

Sports events were cancelled left and right as Typhoon Tingting rendered venues unplayable or without power last week.

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Saipan Tribune Sports

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Three lead Western Open

Tiger Woods watched as his ball clipped the top of a large willow tree and fell 30 yards in front of him.

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Marooned at Managaha Island



Forty-nine of the participants are all smiles after finishing the non-Escape from Managaha Island.

PHOTOS AND TEXT BY MARK RABAGO
REPORTER

Prudence is the better part of valor.

This couldn't be truer than last July 26 when organizers pulled the plug on the scheduled crossing from Managaha Island to Hafa Adai Beach Hotel in Garapan.

Worried they couldn't guarantee the safety of participants in the 2nd Annual Escape from Managaha Island, KFC Club founder Kiyokazu Onishi and former Saipan resident Bill Sakovich decided to shorten the course and make it just a race around buoys positioned off the waters of the uninhabited island.

The decision originally did not sit well with majority of the participants. Three swimmers even escaped the attention of the organizers and did the crossing sans support craft albeit only to the Hyatt Regency Saipan.

Non-escape winner Colin Thompson of Saipan said he already had doubts the evening before the event that the crossing might not push through at all because of the approaching storm.

Thompson still went along with the ferryboat ride to Managaha Island hoping for the best. And when organizers did the inevitable cancellation of the four-mile swim, he wasn't really that surprised.

More disappointed than anything, the 6'5" former waterpolo player at University of California Berkeley said he respected the decision of the organizers and did not even entertain thoughts of crossing to the Hyatt.

Even women's winner Sachi Nakamura of Japan didn't regret coming to Saipan to swim the abbreviated course. The 23-year-old sales executive from Saitama said organizers could not predict the weather and in the end they did

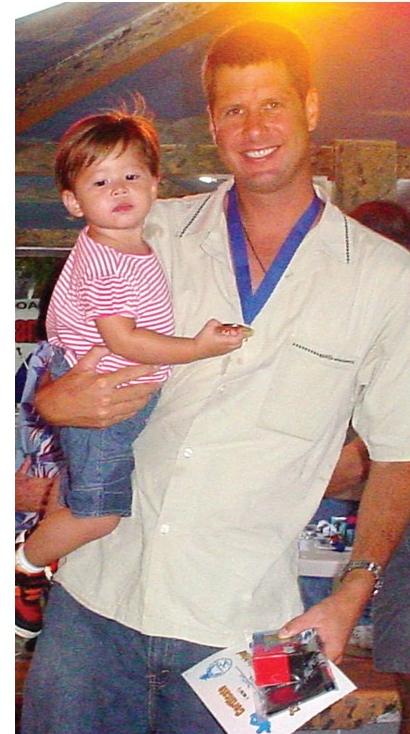
what was good for the participants.

She hopes, however, that Onishi and the rest of the organizers would schedule the Escape earlier next year, so she could finally swim the crossing.

Two of the islands' best runners also participated in the non-escape and also echoed Thompson's thoughts.

"I really wanted to the swim. I've been waiting to do this since last year. But who am I to question the decision of the organizers. They did what they had to do," said Ketson "Jack" Kabiriel.

Yoshi Suzuki seconded Kabiriel, "I was really confident I could make the crossing this year. I was disappointed when that didn't happen. I'm glad they [organizers] canceled the cross-



Colin Thompson with his one-year-old kid during last Saturday's awards banquet at the Chamolinian Cultural Village.



Because of rough waves, swimmers were again reduced to swim a course around Managaha Island.

ing, it was still a very tough swim and I even drank a lot of water."

Of all the participants of the Escape, none probably trained harder and looked forward more to the crossing than veteran triathlete Carol Lynn Calobong-Pierce.

Pierce said she swam between one to two miles a day for more than a year just to be ready for the event. "I've been training for this forever. It's just sad that the Escape was cancelled for the second straight year."

Three youngsters from the Saipan Swim Club showed promise during the shortened course and might

crowd each other for the Escape's top plum in the future.

Juan Camacho, who finished third behind Thompson and Japan's Takyuki Tarashita, said he felt bad the crossing was scrapped. But unlike other swimmers, Camacho said he was disappointed more because he hated going back to Saipan by boat.

Another swimmer prone to seasickness was Chang Kyun Kim. The recent Saipan transplant said he would rather swim back to Saipan than endure the dizzying ferryboat back.

Of the three, only Juan's younger

brother Michael seemed OK with the 15-minute cruise. He, however, said that the shortened race was far tougher than the 800-meter course the junior swimmers did last year.

One swimmer perfectly summed up the unsuccessful crossing and the cautiousness of the organizers.

He said Onishi's group could've decided to throw the dice and just tell participants, "Hey, 49 of you will go out but probably only 44 of you can come home safe."

It's a good thing reason did prevail that particular morning.